

Summary

NPS Winter Use Roving Team Meeting with Park County, MT

Date: 10/11/05

Location: County Commission Chambers, Livingston, MT

Present: Dick Murphy, Larry Lahren, Kevin Schneider, Denice Swanke, Mike Yochim

1. Purpose agency/group or NPS gave for wanting a visit at this time:

An opportunity for dialogue about the Winter Use Plan and EIS process.

2. Results of this meeting and/or next steps:

- Larry plans to talk with Nedra soon regarding MOU finalization.
- Commissioners are interested in future updates utilizing same or similar format to today's meeting.

3. Points raised by Commissioners:

- Concern that drought conditions be fully considered in the EIS, especially re: bison use of groomed roads.
- It is important for NPS to communicate status of EIS process to Gardiner and Cooke City residents.
- Public meetings for the Gallatin National Forest travel management plan were held after alternatives were developed; sense that was too late and would recommend NPS learn from that by involving others before alternatives are finalized.

4. Questions asked:

- Will the EIS consider opening Dunraven Pass in the winter?
- Will there be public meetings for this EIS process?
- Is it possible to have the road from Cooke City to Cody open all winter? Will this be considered in the EIS? A perception was stated that it would be NPS responsibility to maintain and plow that road if it were open during the winter.

5. Parting comments/reflections:

- Keep the lines of communication open.